

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method comprising:  
receiving software at one or more remote computer systems; and  
5 receiving instructions for installing the software at the one or more remote computer systems, wherein the instructions for installing the software comprise one or more messages in a portable format;  
translating the instructions for installing the software from the portable format to an executable format at each of the one or more remote computer systems, thereby  
10 generating executable instructions; and  
executing the executable instructions to install the software at each of the one or more remote computer systems.
2. The method of claim 1,  
15 wherein the instructions are sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.
3. The method of claim 1,  
20 wherein the software is sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
25 receiving user input to record the instructions for installing the software.
5. The method of claim 4,

wherein the user input comprises instructions to send the software to an additional remote computer system and install the software on the additional remote computer system.

5     6.     The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving user input to select the one or more remote computer systems from a plurality of available computer systems.

7.     The method of claim 1,

10         wherein the portable format comprises XML, and wherein the messages comprise XML messages.

8.     The method of claim 1,

15         wherein the instructions are received through a distributed computing infrastructure.

9.     A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement::

receiving software at one or more remote computer systems; and

20         receiving instructions for installing the software at the one or more remote computer systems, wherein the instructions for installing the software comprise one or more messages in a portable format;

25         translating the instructions for installing the software from the portable format to an executable format at each of the one or more remote computer systems, thereby generating executable instructions; and

executing the executable instructions to install the software at each of the one or more remote computer systems.

10.    The carrier medium of claim 9,

wherein the instructions are sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.

5     11.     The carrier medium of claim 9,

wherein the software is sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.

10    12.     The carrier medium of claim 9, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

receiving user input to record the instructions for installing the software.

13.     The carrier medium of claim 12,

15         wherein the user input comprises instructions to send the software to an additional remote computer system and install the software on the additional remote computer system.

14.     The carrier medium of claim 9, wherein the program instructions are further  
20 computer-executable to implement:

receiving user input to select the one or more remote computer systems from a plurality of available computer systems.

15.     The carrier medium of claim 9,

25         wherein the portable format comprises XML, and wherein the messages comprise XML messages.

16.     The carrier medium of claim 9,

wherein the instructions are received through a distributed computing infrastructure.

17. A system comprising:

5 a first computer system comprising a first CPU and a first memory; and  
one or more remote computer systems, each comprising a respective remote CPU  
and a respective remote memory;

wherein the first computer system and the one or more remote computer systems  
are communicatively coupled via a network;

10 wherein the first memory stores program instructions which are executable by the  
first CPU to:

send software to the one or more remote computer systems; and

send instructions for installing the software to the one or more remote  
computer systems, wherein the instructions for installing the software comprise one or  
15 more messages in a portable format;

wherein the remote memories store program instructions which are executable by  
the respective remote CPUs to:

receive the software; and

receive the instructions for installing the software;

20 translate the instructions for installing the software from the portable  
format to an executable format at each of the one or more remote computer systems,  
thereby generating executable instructions; and

execute the executable instructions to install the software at each of the  
one or more remote computer systems.

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18. The system of claim 17,

wherein the instructions are sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing  
between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and  
optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.

19. The system of claim 17,  
wherein the software is sent and received using peer-to-peer message passing  
between a first computer system, the one or more remote computer systems, and  
5 optionally one or more intermediary computer systems.
20. The system of claim 17, wherein the program instructions are further executable  
by the first CPU to:  
receive user input to record the instructions for installing the software.
- 10 21. The system of claim 20,  
wherein the user input comprises instructions to send the software to an additional  
remote computer system and install the software on the additional remote computer  
system.
- 15 22. The system of claim 17, wherein the program instructions are further executable  
by the first CPU to:  
receive user input to select the one or more remote computer systems from a  
plurality of available computer systems.
- 20 23. The system of claim 17,  
wherein the portable format comprises XML, and wherein the messages comprise  
XML messages.
- 25 24. The system of claim 17,  
wherein the instructions are received through a distributed computing  
infrastructure.